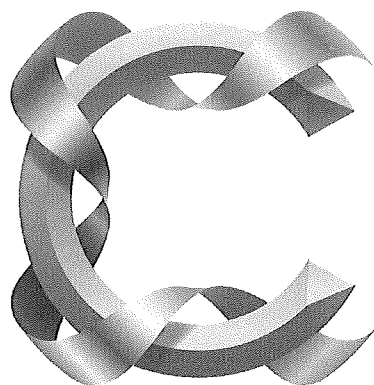




Community Covenant

between

**MEDWAY COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE,
VOLUNTARY AND BUSINESS SECTORS, AND THE CIVILIAN
COMMUNITY IN MEDWAY**

and

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN MEDWAY

dated 3 JULY 2012

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT FOR MEDWAY

SECTION 1 – PARTICIPANTS

1. This Medway Armed Forces Community Covenant is made between:
 - a. Serving and former members of the Armed Forces and their families working and residing in Medway, and
 - b. Medway Council, and
 - c. Other participating groups within Medway.

SECTION 2 – PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

2. This Armed Forces Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between the Medway civilian community and the Armed Forces Community in Medway. It is intended to complement the Armed Forces Covenant (Annex A), which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces at the local level. The core principle of the Armed Forces Covenant is that members of the Armed Forces Community should:
 - a. Not suffer disadvantage compared to other citizens as a result of their service;
 - b. Receive equality of outcomes; and
 - c. Receive special treatment where appropriate.
3. The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Medway and to recognise and to remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes Service personnel and Service veterans, their families and their widow(er)s.
4. For Medway Council, this Community Covenant presents an opportunity to bring its knowledge, experience and expertise to bear in the provision of support, help and advice to members of the Medway Armed Forces Community. It also presents an opportunity to build upon existing good work on other initiatives such as the Welfare Pathway¹.

¹ The Welfare Pathway brings together services to support veterans and uses existing Gateways as the access point.

Appendix 1

5. For the Medway Armed Forces Community, this Community Covenant encourages the integration of Service life with civilian life and encourages members of the Medway Armed Forces Community to help their local community.

SECTION 3 – AIMS AND GENERAL INTENTIONS

6. This Community Covenant complements the Armed Forces Covenant which defines the enduring general principles that should govern the relationship between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces Community.

7. It aims to encourage all parties within a community to offer support to the local Armed Forces Community and to make it easier for Service personnel, families and veterans to access the help and support available from the MOD, from statutory providers and from the Charitable and Voluntary Sector. These organisations already work together in partnership and at local level.

8. The scheme is intended to be a two-way arrangement and members of the Medway Armed Forces Community are encouraged to do as much as they can to support the Medway civilian community and to promote activity which integrates the Service community into civilian life.

SECTION 4 - MEASURES

9. Medway Council will establish a Community Covenant Steering Group in order to better facilitate the provision of support to the Medway Armed Forces Community. This Community Covenant Steering Group will work closely with the Armed Forces Community, statutory providers and the Charitable and Voluntary Sector in Medway in order to identify, develop and support projects which meet the aims of the Armed Forces Covenant. The Community Covenant Steering Group will measure success and will report half-yearly to the Medway Council and to the Ministry of Defence.

10. Medway Council will oversee the long-term planning and decision making in the support services provided by the Council to the Armed Forces in Medway. Medway Council will also co-ordinate and deliver joint Council/Military Community projects as identified and agreed by the Community Covenant Steering Group. Medway Council will also seek opportunities to involve the local business community in joint projects and activities.

11. Signatories to this Medway Community Covenant will work together with the Armed Forces Community in Medway and with other individuals and organisations in Medway to further the aims of the Armed Forces Covenant. The contact details of relevant organisations and agencies are at Annex B.

We, the undersigned, agree to work and to act together to honour this Medway Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed on behalf of Medway Council

Councillor Vaughan Baden Hewett
The Worshipful The Mayor of Medway

Brigadier SP Hodder late RE
Commandant
The Royal School of Military Engineering

Commodore Martin Atherton
Naval Regional Commander
Eastern England

Councillor Rodney Chambers OBE
The Leader
Medway Council

Lieutenant Colonel GV Baker RE
Commanding Officer
1 RSME Regiment &
Commander Chatham Station

Lieutenant Colonel GE Minton MBE PWRR
Commanding Officer
The 3rd Battalion The Princess of Wales' Royal
Regiment

Neil Davies
Chief Executive
Medway Council

Major AW Kriehn RE
Second in Command
101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (EOD)

Lieutenant Catherine Fearon RNR
Medway Division
HMS President

Signed on behalf of other Participating Organisations

The Viscount De L'Isle MBE Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Kent		Major (Retired) Gordon McEwan Senior Medical Officer Army Primary Health Care Service London & South East (Chatham)
Dr Peter Green Chairman Medway Commissioning Group and Medical Co-Director NHS Kent and Medway		
Dr Gray Smith-Laing MB FRCP Medical Director Medway Maritime Hospital		
Major BJ Palin RADC Senior Dental Officer Defence Dental Service London & South East (Chatham)		
Colonel (Retd) P Cook DL Chairman Kent ABF The Soldiers' Charity		
Mrs Jo Trembeth Pembroke House RN Benevolent Trust		
Mrs Sheila Potipher Chairman of The Board of Governors MidKent College		
Mrs Sheila Potipher Chairman of The Board of Governors MidKent College		
Mrs Jo Trembeth Pembroke House RN Benevolent Trust		

Tracey Crouch MP Chatham & Aylesford	Admiral Sir Ian Garnett KCB Chairman Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust	Austin Walker Chairman Kent County Royal British Legion
Chief Superintendent Neil Jerome Divisional Commander North Division Kent Police	Mr Matthew Eddy Neighbourhood Services Manager mhs homes	Mrs Anne Vosper Secretary Medway Division SSAFA Forces Help
Mr Bryan Cope Chairman Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority	Mrs Jane Heyes Head Teacher Brompton-Westbrook Primary School	Peter Cass Chairman Rochester & Strood Royal British Legion
Chris Stamp Senior Operations Manager North & East Kent South East Coast Ambulance NHS Trust Foundation	Jo Price Director of Innovation and Community Brompton Academy	Mrs VB Dunger Chairman Gillingham Royal British Legion

Geraldine Allinson Chairman The Kent Messenger Group	Heath Williams Regional Managing Director Arriva Southern Counties	Mr Gerald Lauder Chairman Borstal Royal British Legion
Matthew Biddle Managing Director Berkeley First	Jo James Chief Executive Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce	Mr Fred Wilson Chairman Royal Naval Association Chatham
Jonathan Mills Deputy Harbour Master & Pilot Peel Ports Medway	Martin Featherstone Chief Executive, Council for Voluntary Services Medway	Bernadette Patterson Royal Marines Association
Colonel David Brambell Trustee Governor The Hospital of Sir John Hawkins, Knight, in Chatham	Richard Cherry Countryside Properties plc	Glenn Scarborough Deputy Director South Eastern Group Royal Engineers Association

Wing Commander GM Garrod-Bell RAF
Officer Commanding
Kent Wing ATC

Major Geoff Masters
Officer Commanding
Kent Squadron RE
Army Cadet Force

Mrs Hazel Marshall
Honorary Secretary
Medway Branch
Royal Air Force Association

Mr Charles Horton
Managing Director
Southeastern Railway

Dan McDonald
Chief Executive Officer
Medway Citizens Advice Bureau

Sergeant (SCC) Stuart Carpenter
Royal Marine Cadets

Andy Hudson
Governor
HMP & YOI Rochester

Sub Lieutenant (SCC) Buck Buckingham RNR
Commanding Officer
Medway Towns Sea Cadet Unit (TS Cornwallis SCC)

Appendix 1

THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom

Her Majesty's Government

– and –

**All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of
The Crown**

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most, such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.